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ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

Letter from Samuel Judah, Esq.

To the Editor of the Indiana Farmer and Gardener.

VINCENNES, March 4, 1845.

DEAR SIR:—Your letter has not been heretofore answered, because I am just now returned from New Orleans. It will give me pleasure to aid, according to my power, in your undertaking, but I cannot promise as to time, quantity, or quality. The articles referred to, were an examination of the probable demand and range of prices for lard oil in connection with the supply, consumption and prices of whale, sperm, and olive oils—and an examination of the probable prices of wheat. But I do not keep copies. If I can get copies from the printer I will do it, and will write them over; in which case they may be worth publication. I am fond of such studies, and wrote the articles as an amusement, and indeed had forgotten them.

I was in New Orleans but a few days, as I could not do any business; I shall return. I left G. H. Dunn there in good health on the 21st ult. Last spring, some persons said that I should have said something of the better sort of society—churches, &c. in New Orleans. If I had remained this time, I should have attempted it. The fact is, it is not easy. The better sort of creole society is not accessible to strangers from the north, and the better sort of American population is, if any thing, more domestic than in the North:—hence a stranger can only be conversant with the floating population, and the resident odds and ends and oddities. But, of the churches, I can give you a couple of anecdotes:

One of my best friends in New Orleans is one of the Elders in Dr. Scott's Church—the Old-school Presbyterian—he offered me a seat, and I went, the only Sunday I was there. It was a charity sermon. In his conclusion the Dr. stated, that during the year 1844, his congregation paid all the ordinary expenses of the establishment—paid $20,000 on account of the building, &c., and contributed upwards of $10,000 for *foreign* objects. Yet this is not the largest nor the richest congregation in N. Orleans.

Dr. Clapp's church is built on a large and costly piece of ground. Some three or four years since the whole property was sold for debt, amounting to very many thousands. It was bought by one of the curiosities of New Orleans—a Spanish Israelite by the name of Trujo, who immediately donated it to Dr. Clapp for his life-time. The Dr. derives from the pews about $8,000 annually, and preaches whatever doctrine he pleases. Trujo never goes near him or his church, and did this, because, during a season of unusually great sickness, when other clergymen left the city, Dr. Clapp remained and was extremely active, &c.

The largest and most costly private residence in New Orleans was built by one who, in a few years, regardless of means, by bold operations accumulated an immense fortune. He retired from business, built the palace, and set up for a gentleman. But the gentlehood of New Orleans refused to recognize

him, and in disgust he was compelled to move north, and his palace is a boarding house. On the other hand, Hatch, who killed Jackson the other day, and possesses the sympathy of every one in New Orleans, and is among the most respected of the citizens of his age, went there a poor boy—soon acquired the regard of his employer, because he regularly sent home to his parents three-fourths of his salary;—on attaining his majority was taken into partnership, and before he was thirty, added to his share of the profits a donation of $30,000, by the will of his employer and partner. Possessed of $100,000, he made the most liberal arrangements for his family, and was doubtless thinking of settling himself—when, in a crowded assembly, a New York bully and blackguard without cause, insulted and repeatedly struck him. He is now a prisoner to be tried for his life. And such is fortune.

Very respectfully,

SAML. JUDAH.

Editor Ia. Farmer and Gardener.

Oats.

This grain is not cultivated in anything like the proportion that it should be at the south and west. It is one of our best grain crops at the north. We easily get from 30 to 65 bushels per acre here, and consider the straw as highly valuable for feeding to stock, especially when cut pretty green—as it may always be—without lessening the yield of grain. Chemical analysis affirms that 195 pounds of oat straw are equal to 100 pounds of good hay; for the same value, it requires 374 pounds of wheat straw, and 442 of rye. Oats are so much more easily cultivated than corn, we are astonished that the planters of the [west] do not pay more attention to them. They need never be at the trouble of threshing, unless they prefer it. All they have to do is, cut them when the berry is in the milk, let them cure properly, then tie them up in small sheaves and stack them, being careful to leave an air-hole in the centre of the stack, to let off any fermentation that may arise, and prevent heat and must. When oats are wanted for feed, they should be cut up, straw and all. A straw-cutter is best for this purpose: but it may be done with considerale ease and rapidity with a sharp broadaxe, on the head of a block standing three feet high. Oats, as we remarked in our January No., are infinitely better food for horses and mules—and indeed, for all work animals—than corn, more especially in a hot climate. Corn abounds in oil, and only makes the animals fat; whereas oats give them hard, enduring muscle. Not one farmer in a hundred knows or appreciates this fact, and yet how important to him. The hardy, muscular peasantry of Scotland get their enduring flesh from eating oatmeal. It is better than Indian corn for hard-working men, as well as cattle; depend upon it.—*American Agriculturist.*

The Corn Crop.

The valleys of our West, are regarded as the corn fields of the world, and our people seem to regard the crop of corn as the foundation crop. Lately, Wheat is becoming a rival, particularly in the northern part of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and the Territories. The real object of an Agricultural Paper, is, not to theorize,—to teach "book farming," but to lay before practical men practical results, to inform them of *what has been done.* In our last number we gave the methods of cultivating the Potato as employed by eminent and successful cultivators. We present now the modes of cultivating Corn, which have produced the largest crops.

W. C. Young's Method.—Mr. Young is a Kentucky farmer, and raised 195 bushels of shelled corn to the acre. When this was first published it quite staggered the faith of Eastern farmers. This roused the zeal of Kentucky, and the Dollar Farmer sets forth the manner, and adds a series of explanations, all of which we give. We must say, that such a depth, for seed on stiff soils—on any soil except the lightest and mellowest, and on these, in a cool or rainy spring, would not be proper. Neither could planting be done in March in Indiana unless in the southern part, and then only in early seasons.—*Ed. Ind. Farm. & Gard.*

That Mr. Young did produce 195 bushels to the acre, we feel just as certain as that we now hold a pen in our hand. It was measured by as respectable gentlemen as any in Jessamine county—gentlemen appointed for the purpose by the Jessamine Agricultural Society. And let it be remembered that this was no first experiment on a single acre. The corn was planted and cultivated according to the method long adopted by Mr. Young, and his whole crop was pronounced equal to the five acres measured. This extraordinary crop was produced in 1840, a year very favorable to corn; but we are told by Mr. Young that in the dryest years he does not get less than 100 bushels to the acre.

Here then is not "book farming," but a

method of cultivation *practiced* for years by a plain, practical, but intelligent farmer. Here then is actual experience for a course of years, the very thing the farmer says he must have before he can be convinced. But, reader, are you convinced! No. You cannot get round the experience, provided it *was* experience, and you will take a short way of evading the matter by simply saying that you don't believe a word of the whole story.

Strange as it may seem, these worthy farmers that go so strong for *facts* and *experience*, and who yet deny all facts and all experience that do not tally with their own notions—these very farmers are fond of arguing, and like mightily to have the reason or *rationale* of things explained; and many a one of them will yield to the *theory* who will not yield to a *fact*. Well, then, let us look into the theory of Mr. Y's practice. Hear him:

"My universal rule is, to plow my corn land the fall preceding the spring when I plant; and as early in the spring as possible, I cross-plow as deep as circumstances will permit; and as soon as this is done, I commence checking off—the first way with my large plows, and the second with my small ones; the checks three feet by three, admitting of working the land both ways. And then I plant my corn from the 20th to the 25th of March—a rule to which I adhere with scrupulous exactness; planting from 8 to 12 grains in each hill, covering the same from *four to six inches deep*, greatly preferring the latter depth. So soon as my corn is up of sufficient height, I start the large harrow directly over the rows, allowing a horse to walk each side; harrowing the way the corn was planted; and on land prepared as above and harrowed as directed, the hoeing part will be so completely performed by this process, that it will satisfy the most skeptical. Then, allowing the corn thus harrowed, to remain a few days, I start my small plow with the bar next the corn; and so nicely will this be done, that when a row is thus plowed, so completely will the intermediate spaces, hills, &c., be lapped in by the loose earth, occasioned by this system of close plowing, as to render any other work useless for a time. I thin to four stalks upon a hill, never having to transplant, the second plowing being performed with the mouldboard towards the rows of corn; and so rapid has been the growth of the corn between the first and second plowings, that this is performed with ease; and when in this stage, I consider my crop safe—my general rule being, never to plow my corn more than four times, and harrow once. My practice is, to put a field in corn two successive years, then grass it, and let it lie eight years—a rule from which I never deviate. Now, I do not pretend that the labor bestowed upon a sod-field to put it in a state of thorough cultivation, does not meet with a fair equivalent from one crop; but I presume no farmer will doubt when I say the second year's crop from sod land is better than the first, with not more than one half the labor. The best system of farming is to produce the greatest amount of profit from the smallest amount of labor."

Now, what are the essentials of this method?

First—Fertility of soil, kept up by his system of manuring and grass, of which we shall not speak.

Second—Early planting. In consequence of this, the corn matures before the dry season commences, and every farmer knows that plenty of rain will make a good crop of corn in almost any soil. They all know that the essential thing for corn is rain, and there is generally plenty of rain till about the 1st of July. Mr. Young might plant his corn considerably later, and have it come up as early, and grow off more rapidly, by soaking it in a solution of saltpetre. Thus would the effect of frost and chilly mornings be in a degree avoided, while we feel confident from our own experience, all injury from the cut-worm would be avoided.

Third—Close planting. Every farmer must know that, to produce the heaviest possible crop, a certain number of stalks must be upon the ground. It is often observed that the great sin of American agriculture is too thin sowing. Grass is nearly always sowed too thin, and the same is true of small grain. In England they sow four and five and sometimes six bushels of oats to the acre; in this country generally not more than a bushel or a bushel and a half. Hence in England they yield three or four times as heavy as in this country; while in this country we never hear of an extraordinary crop where less than three or four bushels to the acre were sown. Now, we venture to affirm that no very large corn crop was ever grown unless it was planted more than usually thick. In the crop of George W. Williams, of Bourbon county, Kentucky, the corn was planted in rows two feet apart, with a stalk every foot in the rows. This crop produced 167 bushels to the acre. But there is another important advantage of close planting. The corn very soon becomes so dense that the ground is shaded, and the growth of the grass is prevented, and the moisture retained in the soil. By this method of cultivation, no grass is ever allowed to absorb the moisture from the earth, or to take up the nutricious gases which ought to be appropriated exclusively to the corn.

Fourth—Deep planting. This probably operates favorably by giving the roots a bedding where the soil is always moist. Another advantage may be that the roots are thus not so liable to be broken by the plow in cultivation. But it must be here noted, that by Mr. Young's method, the corn is 'laid by' before the roots are so extended as to be liable to much injury from the plow.

Fifth and last—It will be observed that, by Mr. Young's method, the soil is kept very friable and loose, and that to a considerable depth. This may be considered the all-essential point in husbandry. One of the chief advantages of all manures is, so to divide the soil as to make it that the atmosphere, from which plants derive their principal nutriment, may freely penetrate to the roots of the plants. In such a loose soil, too, it is well known that much less rain is requisite than in a stiff, cold, close soil. For this reason, gravel, sand, or saw-dust is often the best manure that can be put upon a stiff soil. In the fall of the year, Mr. Young turns down very deep a thick-rooted sod of eight year's standing. The vegetable matter in the sod will obviously keep the soil very loose for a year or two by mechanical division, as well as by the slow fermentation of this matter in the soil. But this is not all. The soil is deeply broken up before planting; it is harrowed thoroughly as soon as the corn comes up, and then there is a rapid succession of plowing, until the ground is shaded by the corn, and plowing is no longer possible or necessary. No doubt the plow is preferable to the hand-hoe or cultivator in the case of Mr. Young; for it makes the soil loose to a greater depth, and we have already explained that, according to his method, the roots of the corn are not exposed to injury from the plow.

We append to this account of Mr. Young's method, that of several other cultivators and are indebted for them to the Western Farmer and Gardener. In Mr. Miller's account the reader will observe the *depth of planting* in a stiff clay:

Mr. Sutton's method.—Mr. James M. Sutton, of St. George, Delaware, who raised upon seventy nine acres 6,284 bushels of corn, and who gives an accurate and detailed account of the condition and cultivation of each field, makes this remark in relation to the use of the plow:

"In order to test the advantage of the cultivator over the plow, for tilling corn, he had five rows in this field that he lapped the furrow to, with a plow, previous to going over it the last time with the cultivator.—He soon discovered that the growth of these five rows fell short, in height, of those adjacent, and yielded one-fifth less corn.

"There is no doubt but the true mode of tilling corn, especially where sod ground is used, is to plow deep, and use nothing but the fallow and flake harrow for its cultivation. By not disturbing the sod plowed down, it remains there as a reservoir of moisture, and an exhilarating principle throughout the season, to the growth of the corn."

Upon Mr. Sutton's report of his crop, Judge Buel adds the following:

"*Note.*—The management which led to the extraordinary product of corn, should be deeply impressed upon the mind of every corn grower. 1. The ground was WELL dunged with LONG manure; 2. It was planted on a GRASS LYE, one DEEP plowing; 3. It was well PULVERIZED with the harrow; 4. the plow was NOT used in the after culture, nor the corn hilled, but the cultivator only used; 5. the sod was not disturbed, nor the manure turned to the surface; and 6. the corn was CUT AT THE GROUND when it was fit to top. These are the points which we have repeatedly urged in treating of the culture of this crop; and their correctness is put beyond question by this notable result. The value of lime and marl are well illustrated in the second experiment."

Mr. Charles H. Tomlinson, of Schenectady, New York, in giving an account of his experience, says:

"The two last years' corn has been raised in the following manner, on the Mohawk Flats, near this city. If in grass, the land is plowed and well harrowed, lengthwise of the furrow, without disturbing the sward. The ground is then prepared for planting, by being marked out two and a half feet one way and three feet the other. The last season, the field was rolled after being planted, with evident benefit, as it made it level.—When the corn is three inches high, the cultivator is passed through both ways; and twice afterwards it is used in the same manner; no hills are made, but the ground is kept level. Neither hand-hoe, nor plow are used, after the corn is planted. Fields manured with coarse manure have been tilled in the same manner. Corn tilled in this way is as clean of weeds, as when tilled in the usual way: it is no more liable to be blown down, and the produce equally good. It saves a great deal of hard labor, which is an expensive item in the usual culture of corn. Last October, ten rods were measured out, in two different places, in a corn field, on grass land—the one yielding ten, the other nine, bushels of ears. In one corn-field, after the last dressing in July, timothy and clover-seed were sown, and in the fall the grass appear-

ed to have taken as well as it has done in adjoining fields where it had been sown with oats."

Upon which Judge Buel again remarks:

"All, or nearly all, the accounts we have published of great products of Indian corn, agree in two particulars, viz: in not using the plow in the culture, and in not earthing, or but very slightly, the hills. These results go to demonstrate, that the entire roots are essential to the vigor of the crops and to enable them to perform their functions as nature designed, must be near the surface. If the roots are severed with the plow, in dressing the crop, the plants are deprived of a portion of their nourishment; and if they are buried deep by hilling, the plant is partially exhausted in throwing out a new set near the surface, where alone they can perform all their offices. There is another material advantage in this mode of cultivating the corn crop—it saves a vast deal of manual labor."

The preceding considerations justify us in recommending, that in the management of the Indian corn crop, the following rules be observed, or at least partially, so far as to test their correctness.

1. That the corn harrow and cultivator be substituted for the plow in the culture of the crop.

2. That the plants be not hilled, or but slightly so—this not to prevent the soil being often stirred and kept clean, and,

3. That in harvesting, the crop be cut at the ground as soon as the grain is glazed.

Again, in reference to the system of level cultivation of corn, Judge Buel remarks:

"The experience of the last two years has been sufficient to admonish us, that without due precaution, our crops of Indian corn will not pay for the labor bestowed on the culture; and yet, that where due attention has been paid to soil, manure, seed and harvesting, the return has been bountiful, notwithstanding bad seasons. Having been uniformly successful in the culture of this crop, we feel justified in repeating some leading directions for its management."

"*After-culture.*—In this the plow should not be used if the corn harrow and cultivator can be had, and if used, should not be suffered to penetrate the soil more than two or three inches. The plow tears the roots, turns up and wastes the manure, and increases the injuries of drought. The main object is to extirpate weeds, and to keep the surface mellow and open, that the heat, air and moisture may exert better their kind influences upon the vegetable matter in the soil, in converting it into nutriment for the crop. At the first dressing with the hand hoe, the plants are reduced to four, or three, in a hill, the surface is broken among the plants, the weeds carefully extirpated, and a little fresh mould gathered to the hill. At the second dressing, a like process is observed, taking care that the earthing shall not exceed one inch and a half, that the hill be broad and flat, and that the earth for this purpose be not taken from one place, but gathered from the surface between the rows, where it has been loosened by the cultivator."

Georgetown X Roads, Kent Co., Md.
Nov. 4th, 1837.

Mr. Miller's Method.—I have just finished measuring the corn that grew this year on a lot of mine of five and a half acres, and have measured 105½ barrels and one bushel of ears, making 103 bushels of corn per acre. The following is the manner in which I prepared the ground, &c. The soil is a stiff clay: one and a half acres of said lot was in clover last year, the balance in wheat. I put 265 two-horse cart loads of barn-yard manure on it: the manure was coarse, made out of straw, corn tops and husks, hauled into the yard in January and February, and hauled out in March and April, consequently was very little rotted. I spread it regularly and plowed it down with a large conclave plow, seven inches deep. I then harrowed it twice the same way it was plowed. I then had the rows marked out with a small plow, three feet ten inches wide, and one and a half inches deep. I planted my corn from 18 to 22 inches apart, and covered it with hoes: just drawing the furrows over the corn, which covered it *one and a half inches below the surface.* When the corn was four inches high I harrowed it, and thinned it to two stalks in the hill: in about two weeks after harrowing, I cultivated it: about the 15th of June I cultivated it again, which was all the tillage I gave it. We farmers of the Eastern shore count our corn by the thousand: I had 38,640 hills on my lot, and I think my corn would have been better had I planted earlier: I did not plant until the last of April. I think the planting of corn shallow and working it with the cultivator is much the best way, especially on clover ley. If you think the above worthy of notice you will please give it a place in your valuable paper."

Mr. Hopkins method.—"*Soil and Culture.*—The soil is a warm sandy loam. It was plowed deep in the autumn of 1836. About the first of May, I carried on, and spread all over the ground, about thirty loads of stable and barn-yard unfermented manure, then rolled and harrowed the ground well, being careful not to disturb the sod, which was timothy, and mown the summer preceding; and on the 9th and 10th of May planted the same, two and a half feet between the rows, and fifteen inches between the hills. It was dressed with ashes when it

made its appearance above ground. On the 10th June commenced weeding and thinning, leaving from two to four of the best spears in each hill, the whole averaging about three spears in a hill. After this I ashed it again, using in all about ten bushels of good unleached house ashes. On the 10th of July commenced hoeing, and at the same time took off all the suckers—put no more about the hills than we took from them, but carefully cleaned out all the weeds from the hills. The seed was prepared by simply wetting it with warm water, and rolling it in plaster.

"*Harvesting.*—The corn was cut up on the 18th September at the ground, and shocked in small shocks; and on the 9th of October it was housed and husked, and subsequently threshed and measured.

"*Product.*—Ninety-nine bushels of first-rate corn, without even a nubbin of soft or poor grain, owing to the fact, probably, that there was no suckers on which to grow them."

An American Herd Book.

To the Breeders of Short Horn Cattle in the U. S.

In the month of May last, I proposed, through the columns of the Cultivator and American Agriculturist in New York, to publish an American Herd Book, provided a sufficient demand for a work of that kind should be made in the manner there indicated. At the time I wrote the proposition I had little confidence that it would be met with any *general* zeal, or approbation even, by the breeders of short horns throughout the country; and in this I have not been disappointed.—It is apparant that a lethargy pervades too many of our once spirited cattle breeders on the vitally important subject of preserving, in an enduring form the genealogies of their individual herds; a course, which, if persisted in, will ultimately lead not only to their destruction, but to a large pecuniary loss to themselves, and awaken, when too late, deep and lasting regrets.

But the zeal of our American breeders is not altogether lost. A considerable number of enterprizing and spirited gentlemen have manifested strongly their desire that the work shall proceed; and with characteristic liberality proposed such a patronage as shall procure its publication.

I propose, therefore, to commence the compilation of the Herd Book as soon as sufficient material shall be transmitted to me for a commencement; and I now request all those gentlemen who wish their animals registered, to make out plain and distinct pedigrees of their stock, with all necessary references, and particulars that may be important, touching their lineage; and if foreign animals, the date of their importation, and by whom made, together with such other facts as will best illustrate their history, &c. It is to be observed that the object of this work is not to *establish* pedegrees, but to *perpetuate* them: and it may at once be remarked, that any animal whose purity of blood is not properly sustained, cannot be admitted within its pages. The English Herd Book was first published in 1822. Previous to that time; and for a few years immediately following, many valuable animals from among the best families of well descended short horns in England were imported into America, whose names and pedigrees are not to be found in its columns. Many breeders in England, not then appreciating the value of such a work, neglected to register their cattle; and these remained thus unnoticed in many instances, altogether, and in others, until the supplementary volumes were published. The descendants of those importations, preserved in their purity, and their history properly authenticated, will be admitted. But in all cases where references cannot be made directly to the English Herd Book, such facts and references as will place the lineage of the animals named beyond dispute, will be necessary to accompany the registry.

In one particular, this will differ from the English registry. That work has neither note nor comment. To all but the initiated in Short-horn lore, the pages of the Herd Book are as a sealed volume in all that relates to their origin, history, and present condition. Names of animals are often inserted without any reference whatever, apparently for no other purpose than to establish them as "Herd Book Cattle." It will be otherwise in this. Interesting facts and illustrations will accompany pedigrees as they may occur, throwing light and information, such as to place every thing relating to this noble breed of cattle in the most attractive form, and develope in the best manner their advantages to the American farmer.

In all cases where the parties are unknown to the subscriber, either personally, or by correspondence, they will please to give the name of some distinguished breeder, or citizen of their own, or a neighboring State as a reference. This is not required through any suspicion of the entire integrity of any gentleman who may offer his cattle for registry, but as a rule for the mutual protection of each one who desires a true and unimpeachable record of short horns, (as far as it goes,) in America.

As the magnitude of the work (in pages,) will not be known till the materials are all collected, the price cannot be exactly stated; but at all events it will not exceed three dollars per copy, as noted in the prospectus last May, deliverable as there stated.

All pedigrees, &c., are requested to be transmitted, (if by mail, post paid,) to me at Black Rock, N. Y., or if more convenient to the parties, to A. B. Allen, at the office of the American Agriculturist, 205 Broadway, New York City, or to Caleb N. Bement, American Hotel, Albany, New York, who will duly forward them to me. The terms for registry will be one dollar for a single animal; and fifty cents each for any larger number; to persons having ten or more animals, with simple pedigrees, a liberal deduction will be made from this last price, according to number; the money to be enclosed with the pedigrees. Accompanying the pedigrees, the number of volumes subscribed for is also requested.

All parties to be forwarded as soon as possible; at all events, before the first of April next, as the work will be put to press to be delivered to subscribers by the first day of June ensuing.

The insertion of this notice is respectfully requested in the agricultural papers generally, one of which to be sent to me, for which a copy of the book will be presented, and any gentleman who feels an interest in this subject will do a favor by giving information of this proposed publication to any neighboring breeder of short horns, who may not otherwise obtain it.

LEWIS F. ALLEN.

Black Rock, N. Y. January, 1845.

A young Irishman, who had married when he was about 19 years of age, complaining of the difficulties to which his early marriage had subjected him, said he would never marry so young again, if he lived to be as old as Methuselah.

The Oldest Inhabitant.—We have finally found out who that much talked of individual the "oldest inhabitant," is. An elderly chap speaking of his great knowledge of the Western country the other day, said that he had "known the Mississippi river ever since it was a small creek!" He's the man.

Preparation of Salt for Butter.

In the preparation of butter, much must depend on the quality of the salt which is used. Even the purest salt of commerce, it is stated, contains small quantities of sulphate of magnesia and lime, nitrate of soda, and muriate of magnesia. This is the case with rock and bay salt, which is considered altogether the best to be obtained; and that which is commonly used, not only contains a portion of these substances, but likewise other impurities, which very greatly impair, if not destroy, its efficacy. The following direction is given on high authority, as a mode by which, at little trouble or expense, any farmer's wife can render the salt she uses pure: Put into a large kettle a peck of salt, with clear rain-water enough to dissolve it; boil it, and skim off every particle of scum that rises on the surface; then dissolve one ounce of the carbonate of soda in four ounces of water, put it into the kettle, stir it well, then boil it again for ten minutes, skimming off the skum that rises; then strain the brine through several folds of flannel. A considerable quantity of earthy matter will thus be found in the bottom of the kettle, which is the cause of the impurity. After having thus strained it, add a small quantity (half an ounce or so) of muriatic acid to the brine, to neutralize the soda; then put the brine again into the kettle, and boil it till it crystalizes, or in a shallow wooden vessel till the water is evaporated: the first is the quickest. After the salt is well crystalized, it must be washed, by putting it into a clean basket, and throwing over it a bucket of perfectly pure water, and let it drain off rapidly; then let it be dried. Perfectly pure salt can thus be obtained, suitable not only for butter, but for preserving meat, &c.; and the increased excellence thus secured, will well repay all the trouble and expense of preparation. It can be rendered more pure than is usually bought, indeed, if the carbonate of soda should not be added; but it is still better when it is also used.

Subsoil Plowing.

Col. Sherwood, of Auburn, made use of the subsoil plow the past season on 15 acres. A part of the subsoiled land was planted in corn, and a part sown with wheat in the fall. The soil was loamy, and the subsoil hard clay and gravel. He used the subsoil plow of Ruggles, Nourse, & Mason. It required four oxen to draw it, and to work to the best advantage at the depth it was run in this case, which was one foot, Col. Sherwood thinks there ought to be six oxen. The team worked over from an acre to an acre and a quarter per day. The ground had not been plowed for thirty years. It was naturally wet, so much so that in a wet time, the water would stand on it to the injury of the grass. The effect of the subsoiling was to render the soil and subsoil so friable, that the water immediately found its way thro', and though a portion of the past season was very wet, the water at no time remaining on or so near the surface as to do the least damage to the crop. The part which was put in corn, was first planted on the 20th of May, but the seed failed, and it was planted again on the last day of May and first day of June, and grew so vigorously that it got ripe as soon as other corn in the neighborhood. Several strips of twenty to thirty feet wide were left through the field, not subsoiled. The difference in favor of the subsoiled portion was very obvious in the ranker growth and larger size of the corn on that part—it was so plain that it might be seen to a row. The different portions were not measured separately at harvest time. The effect of subsoiling on the wheat crop cannot be told at present.—*Alb. Cult.*

The Schoolmaster.

There is no office higher than that of a teacher of youth, for there is nothing on earth so precious as the mind, soul, and character of the child. No office should be regarded with greater respect. The first minds in the community should be encouraged to assume it. Parents should do all but impoverish themselves, to induce such to become the guardians and guides of their children. To this good all their show and luxury should be sacrificed. Here they should be lavish, whilst they straiten themselves in everything else. They should wear the cheapest clothes, live on the plainest food, if they can in no other way secure to their families the best instruction. They should have no anxiety to accumulate property for their children, provided they can place them under influences which will awaken their faculties, inspire them with pure and high principles, and fit them to bear a manly, useful, and honorable part in the world. No language can express the cruelty or folly of that economy, which, to leave a fortune to a child, starves his intellect and impoverishing his heart.—*Channing.*

A young miss, having accepted the offer of a youth to gallant her home, and afterwards fearing that jokes might be cracked at her expense, if the fact should become public, dismissed him about half way, enjoining secrecy. "Don't be afraid," said he, "of my saying anything about it, for I feel as much ashamed of it as you do."

Bones in the Desert.

The accustomed route (M. Dumas says) is marked by a white line of bleached bones extending to the horizon. This extraordinary circumstance, it may well be supposed, aroused all my attention. I called to Bechara, who, however, did not wait for my question, for he at once read my desire in my obvious astonishment. "The dromedary," said he, coming to my side and commencing the story without preface, "is not so troublesome and importunate an animal as a horse. He continues his course without stopping, without eating, without drinking—nothing about him betrays sickness, hunger or exhaustion. The Arab, who can hear from such a distance the roar of a lion, the neigh of a horse, or the noise of men, hears nothing from his *haghim* but its quickened or lengthened respiration; it never utters a complaint or a groan. But when nature is vanquished by suffering—when privations have exhausted its strength—when life is ebbing, the dromedary kneels down, stretches out its neck, and closes its eyes. Its master then knows all is over. He dismounts, and without any attempt to make it rise, for he knows the honesty of its nature, and never suspects it of deception or laziness, he removes the saddle and places it on the back of another dromedary and departs, abandoning the one that is no longer able to accompany him. When night approached, the jackals and hyenas, attracted by the scent, come up and attack the animal till nothing is left but the skeleton."

We are now in the highway from Cairo and Mecca; twice a year the caravans go and return by this route; and these bones are so numerous and so constantly replenished, that the tempests of the desert can never entirely disperse them: these bones, which, without a guide, would lead you to the oases, the wells and fountains, where the Arabs find shade and water, and would end by conducting you to the tomb of the Prophet. These bones are those of dromedaries which perish in the desert. If you look attentively you will see some bones smaller in size, and of a different conformation. These, too, are the wrecks of wearied bodies that have found repose before they reached the goal. They are the bones of believers who desired to obey the Prophet's command, that all the faithful should once in their lives, perform the holy journey; and who, having been too long deterred from undertaking it by cares or pleasures, commence their pilgrimage so late on earth, that they are obliged to finish it in Heaven. And to these some stupid Turk or bloated eunuch, who, sleeping when he ought to have his eyes open, has fallen and broken his neck; give the plague its share, which often decimates a caravan, and the simoon, which often destroys one, and you will readily see that these funeral guide-posts are planted with sufficient frequency to preserve the road in good order, and to point out to the children the route pursued by their fathers.

A True Picture.

The following picture of a Southern planter, as we too often find him, is from the graphic pen of our friend Wilson, of the Planters' Banner.—There is a deuced sight more truth than poetry in it.—Bye-and-bye our planters will probably learn a little gumption, and then we shall be happy to see the picture reversed, but until then candor compels us to acknowledge its correctness.—*Tropic.*

"Now for the picture of the *Planter*. *He* wouldn't sell a chicken, nor a dozen of eggs, nor a bushel of peaches, nor a calf, for any consideration. He is *above* that! *He* raises *cotton—he* does! He rides in a six hundred dollar carriage, for which he is in debt. His daughters thrum a piano that never will be paid for. He buys corn which he could raise at ten cents a bushel, and pays sixty cents for it, after 2½ per cent. advance to his commission merchant. He *could* raise his own *tobacco*, yet he pays $3 a pound for "Richmond scented," He *could* raise his own *hogs*—yet he patronizes *Cincinnati*. The consequences are disastrous. Being the possessor of one staple, he fluctuates with the market of that article, He takes the "Price Current"—he pays postage—he gobbles down the English news like a cormorant. If he sells to-day he'll lose—therefore he'll wait for better advices. He is "mixed up" in cotton, and is a *gambler* therein.—Meantime he wants money; drafts on his factor! He wants conton goods and clothes for his plantation, that he could make at home. He *orders* them, and feels "large." The manufacturer, the insurer, the shipper, the freighter, the drayman, the warehouse man, the seller, and finally the commission merchant, all have a finger in the *pie* of profits, and the proud, *foolish* planter pays them all. The year closes, and he is "up to his eyebrows" in debt! This is the result of his not "calculating" nor even *guessing* the difference between *farming and planting*. One supports a *family*; the other supports *pride*, until pride gets a fall."

Deacon Peaquirk, a staunch temperance man, having accidentally swallowed a rousing tumbler of gin the other day, was asked how he felt after it. "How did I feel?" said he, "why, I felt as if I was sitting on the roof of our meeting-house, and every shingle was a jewsharp."

Important to Pork Raisers.

In conversation with Mr. Duffield, at his celebrated pork and bacon *factory* in Cincinnati, a short time since, he informed us that an important change was taking place among some farmers of that region, in their mode of raising hogs. That there was an increasing demand in the eastern markets for pork and bacon from young hogs, and of thinner quality than formerly; and that farmers were beginning to learn that by selecting a good thrifty breed, and managing them properly, they can raise hogs of 200 to 250 lbs. weight at 9 or 10 months old, and at a saving of one-third to one-half the expense over the old system of wintering store hogs, and slaughtering them at 18 or 20 months old. To practice this system the pigs should come in winter or early in spring; and special care must be taken to have them *kept thriving during their whole lives;* for if they become stunted when young, it is impossible to recover them in time for slaughtering till the next year.—*Ohio Cult.*

Grounds for Divorce.

In New York, conjugal infidelity is the cause for divorce.

In Georgia, Tennessee and Alabama, the judicial decree must be affirmed by a two-thirds vote in the Legislature.

A special law is required in Maryland, Virginia and South Carolina, to authorize a divorce.

In Massachusetts and New Jersey, wilful desertion of five consecutive years, without cause, is cause for divorce.

In Connecticut, divorces are granted for wilful desertion for three years, with total neglect of duty.

In New Hampshire, joining the association of Shakers, and remaining with them during three years, is a good cause of divorce.

In Pennsylvania, wilful and malicious desertion for three years, is a cause for divorce.

In Maine and Ohio, habitual drunkenness for three years, is a cause for divorce.

In Indiana and Missouri, habitual drunkenness for two years, is a cause of divorce.

The expenses of the dissolution of matrimonial partnership, vary in different States. New Jersey does the business the cheapest.

Deacon Hubbard.

A drunken man, called Tom Brown, had rambled into a temperance meeting one evening, and several times interrupted the speaker by his foolish speeches. He was told to keep quiet, but to no effect; and at last the speaker said, "I believe you are the greatest drunkard in town." The man replied. "No I ain't; where's Deacon Hubbard!" The next morning the Deacon appeared in the streets going about his usual business, when a friend, as he passed him said, "Where's Deacon Hubbard?" Surprised at this, he was wondering what could be meant by the expression, when he was roused by some one repeating the same words. He looked up, and again the same cry was repeated in the treble of a boy at some distance. Staggered at such a succession of wonders, he stepped into a tavern, as was his wont, to get his morning bitters, when "Where's Deacon Hubbard?" was the first salutation that he met with. He urged for an explanation of the words that were brought as a common war-cry against him that morning; but it was refused, and he was told to go down to the post office and he would hear all about it. He did so, but had no sooner got within sight and hearing of those waiting the assortment of the mail, than he was assailed with a chorus of "Where's Deacon Hubbard?" After a great deal of persuasion, he was told that Tom Brown had said the evening before that he was the greatest drunkard in town. Struck with wonder that any one should call such a moderate drinker as him a drunkard, he hurried home to his wife, and said "My dear, Tom Brown says I am the greatest drunkard in town." "Well," she replied, "so you are, and I would have told you so long ago, if it had not have been for your passionate temper." This carried conviction to his mind, and he determined to cast off the imputation, and immediately signed the pledge.

Prevention of the Fly in Sheep.

I have heard that an excellent way of preventing sheep being struck with the fly, is to mix train-oil and sulphur to a moderately thick substance, and then occasionally apply it with a brush down the back of each animal, during the season that the fly is about.—*M. A. S.*

The above plan will very frequently succeed in preventing the attack of the fly, but a more simple and effectual method is the occasional application of coarse whale-oil.

London Agricultural Gazette.

Mr. Gough says that a man, the next morning after he has been drunk, feels as though he had the rheumatism in every hair of his head.

He who gives fair words, feeds you with an empty spoon.

A man is valued, as he makes himself valuable.

INDIANA FARMER & GARDENER.

Indianapolis, Saturday, March 22, 1845.

To Correspondents.

We have received a valuable communication on the subject of Butter and Indianapolis Markets, from a writer destined, we think, to become a favorite among our readers. It shall appear in our next.

A lady has written to us on domestic matters, and a good housewife she is, if we are not mistaken in the author. A dutiful answer awaits her in our next.

Mr. H. L. of Madison, we have been told, has several communications for us, and we are in a mood to give them gracious reception.

Mr. Defrees, of South Bend, will accept our thanks for his service in procuring subscribers, and for the articles which he *is to write*. We shall write to *him* soon.

To Editors of Newspapers.

We would suggest to the Editors of Newspapers the propriety of establishing in their columns a permanent agricultural department. We are much pleased to see that many excellent papers are doing it, and that others insert occasional articles. Great advantage cannot fail to accrue to our town and rural population by putting into their hands every week, able articles from practical farmers and gardeners upon the various topics of agriculture and horticulture. Let every paper urge the setting out of SHADE TREES in our villages. It is greatly to be desired, that all our towns should be filled with elms, maples, ashes, locusts, &c. The cultivation of fruit may be much encouraged and promoted by a frequent republication of articles on that subject. Will not every newspaper in the State do something to make Indiana THE HORTICULTURAL *State of the Union?* The gardens and conservatories of a few very wealthy gentlemen do not constitute a Horticultural community. They are of great use in the procuration and cultivation of new varieties of plants, and in testing important matters by expensive experiments. But affluent men and their pleasure grounds are to Horticulture, what universities are to common schools;—that State is best educated whose *whole* population are the most thoroughly trained; and that is *the* Horticultural State, *all* of whose villages, towns, farms, and gardens, are in the highest state of cultivation.

Our desire is to diffuse a love for rural affairs, husbandry, and horticulture among the whole mass of the community. Will not Editors in this State take part in this endeavor?

Peas.

Peas should be planted among the earliest of seeds. They are a hardy vegetable, and will bear severe frosts in the spring without injury. A light, sandy, soil is the best. If manured, let only the most thoroughly rotted be used. Two sorts of peas are sufficient for all ordinary purposes—one early kind, and one for the later and main supply. The number of kinds advertised by seedsmen is very great, and every year adds to the new varieties. Many of them are of little value, and many, hitherto esteemed, are supplanted by better ones The Early Warwick and Cedo Nulli are fine early peas unsurpassed till the Prince Albert appeared. This is now esteemed the earliest of peas, ripening at Boston in 53 days from the time of sowing, and in England in 42 days. We hope to be able, soon, to have this variety for distribution. Early peas are seldom of high flavor; none that we ever raised are comparable to the larger and later peas, and it is, therefore, except for market purposes, not desirable to plant very largely of early sorts.

Of late peas we have, after trying many sorts, fallen back upon the old-fashioned *Marrowfat*, and now raise it exclusively. It will be fit for the table in from 70 to 80 days after planting. *Knight's tall marrowfat* is recommended in Hovey's Magazine (a standard authority) as of "delicious quality and producing throughout the whole season."—We have never had an opportunity of proving it.

We prefer *buying* our seed to *raising* it. In this region the pea bug pierces every seed-pea, and, although the germ is not usually destroyed by this depredator, the seed is

weakened, and the certainty of growth very much diminished. If one *must* plant buggy peas, let them have *scalding* water poured upon them and turned off again immediately. The bug will be destroyed and the pea not injured.

When peas are up they require but one or two hoeings, as they soon shade the ground so as to prevent weeds from growing. They should be well supplied with brush, strongly set in the ground. When peas are allowed to fall over, they become mildewed and rot. This also happens when the rows are planted so near together as to prevent free circulation of air.

When large quantities of peas are desired they should be sown broad-cast, at the rate of about three bushels to the acre—more rather than less. It leaves the land in fine tilth, smothering all weeds. Thirty bushels to the acre is a fair crop, but 84, and 88, have been taken.

Rhubarb.

Rhubarb or *pie-plant* is becoming as indispensable to the garden as corn, or potatoes, or tomatoes. No family should be without it. It comes in after winter apples are gone and before green apples come in again for tarts. By a little attention it may be had from the last of March through the whole summer. Indeed, it may be had through the whole year. The root contains within itself all the nourishment required to develope the leaves and stalks at first, without any other aid than warmth and moisture. If, then, it be lifted late in the fall, or during open weather in winter, and put in large pots, nail kegs, boxes, &c., put in a warm room, or cellar, it will soon send up a supply of leaves. It is not even necessary that there should be much light, for the want of it only makes the stem whiter and of a milder acid. The roots thus used may either be thrown away, or set out again and not used until they have recovered, which will be in about one summer.

For early spring use, select a warm spot in the garden, and late in the fall dig in around your roots a good supply of rotten manure. Cover them with coarse manure, straw, or litter. As soon as the frost comes out of the ground, knock out the ends of a barrel and put one over each plant from which you propose to gain an early supply. Put a quantity of coarse manure around the outside of the barrel to maintain the warmth, and, in cold nights and during cold rains, lay a board over the open top. Thus treated, you may have tarts in March. But the main supply of this wholesome plant is to arise from open cultivation. The roots may be gained from seed or from division of old roots. Eastern writers recommend sowing the seed in autumn; but with us spring sowings have vegetated much better than autumnal planting. In April sow the seed in deep, mellow, and rich beds. Keep the plants free from weeds and in a growing state during the summer. They may require a little shading during the hottest days of summer. The next spring we transplant them to a trial-bed; for, it is to be remembered, that the seed does not necessarily give a plant like its parent. Let them be set two feet apart every way, and during the season it can be seen which are the largest and best; these are to be raised in the fall, divided and transplanted, and the rest thrown away. Out of a hundred plants, not more than two or three may be worth keeping. In the spring of 1842 we planted seed obtained in New york, for the Victoria Rhubarb, (a new kind) which had been imported but a few months. Of fifty plants only three proved worth keeping—one of these for its earliness and the others for size.

When you have secured roots from which you wish to form a bed for your main supply, divide them either in the fall or spring into as many pieces as there are buds on the crown, each piece having, of course, a bud. The smallest slice of root will live, although a large portion is preferable. Do not be too timid in dividing; the plant is exceedingly tenacious of life—it can hardly be killed. We have had roots lying in the open air for weeks, and when replanted growing with undiminished vigor. Every one who has, for a single season, tended a garden knows what *Dock* is, and how tenacious of life, so much so, as to make it quite a trouble. The Rhubarb is a full-blooded vegetable brother, belonging to the same family of plants—

partakes of the same love of life. During the last of February just past, we divided a plant and using the large buds, left several small ones lying in the open path. Yesterday (March 12,) we found them growing finely. These facts show with what facility this valuable plant may be cultivated.

This plant thrives most luxuriantly in a rich, sandy, loam; the earth should be spaded and mellowed to at least twenty inches depth. We prepare ground for it as follows: Mark out the row with a line, throw out the top earth on one side; throw out a full spade depth of subsoil upon the other side. Throw back the top dirt mixing it freely with well rotted manure. Now put in the soil which was taken from the bottom of the trench; as this is comparatively poor mix it largely with manure. We make rows four feet apart, and set the plants three feet apart in the row. Very little care is needed in after cultivation. The large leaves will shade the ground and check weeds. A good supply of fresh manure well dug in once a year will keep the plants in heart and health for a long time.

Letter from A. J. Downing.

We give below a letter from Mr. Downing, long known as an eminent pomologist and more recently yet more distinguished for his writings upon Horticultural matters. Although a private letter, it is of general interest, and he will, we hope, indulge the liberty taken.

Highland Gardens, Newburgh, N. Y.,
Feb. 29th, 1845.

My Dear Sir:—I thank you for the interesting article on horticulture in the West, which appears in the last No. of Hovey's Magazine.

My particular object in writing you at this moment is to call your attention to the remarks you make on the "Golden Russet," which you call "the prince of small apples." From your description of this fruit it is the "Sheep-nose," or "Bullock's Pippin" of Coxe, well known here, and one of the most melting and delicious of apples. I understand from Professor Kirtland of Cleveland, that this is the apple known by the name of Golden Russet in his region.

Will you do me the favor for the sake of settling the synonyms to send me two or three cuttings of the young wood, by mail. I can then determine in a moment. The Sheep-nose has long shoots of a peculiar *drab* color. If your apple proves the same, I think I shall cancel the title "Sheep-nose" —(a vile name,) known only in N. Jersey, and substitute "American Golden Russet"*— this being its common title in New England and the West. I speak now in relation to my work on fruits now in press.

What do you mean by the "White Bellflower of Coxe!" The Detroit I have carefully examined, and it is quite different from the Yellow Bellflower. The Monstrous Bellflower—the only other one Coxe describes is a large autumn fruit, while the Detroit keeps till April?

My work on Fruits has cost me a great deal of labor, but will still contain many imperfections. When it is out of press—in about six weeks—I promise myself the pleasure of sending it with a copy of each of my previous works for the acceptance of your Horticultural Society. And I then hope to be favored with your criticism. Hoping an early answer to my queries herein,

I am sincerely yours,
A. J. DOWNING.

H. W. Beecher.

I should have said 'Monstrous Bellflower' instead of White.

The Bellflower here mentioned is the White or Green Bellflower of Indiana, the *Ohio Favorite* of Western Ohio about Dayton, &c., the *Hollow-cored Pippin of some;* and it has been enquired for, at Mr. Alldredge's nursery, as the *Cumberland Spice*. Mr. A. considered, from the description given, that the White Bellflower only could have been meant. But from the following description of Cumberland Spice in Kenrick, from Coxe, I am inclined to think that the true Cumberland Spice may have been enquired for.

"The tree is very productive; a fine desert fruit, large, rather oblong, contracted towards the summit; the stalk thick and short; of a pale yellow color, clouded near the base; the flesh white, tender, and fine. It ripens in autumn, and keeps till winter, and shrivels in its last stages."

The fruit was brought to Wayne county, Indiana, by Mr. Brunson. He came from N. York to Huron county, Ohio, and thence to Wayne county, Indiana. It is universally diffused through the eastern and cen-

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* There is an English Golden Russet, distinct and quite acid.

tral parts of Indiana, and is esteemed a first rate apple. The *tree* strikingly resembles the Green Newton Pippin, but its brush is not so small, and there is less of it, the top being rather more open. The wood is brittle, and, as the tree is a free and constant bearer, it tends to break, and is troublesome to keep in good order. Mr. Ernst and other gentlemen of Cincinnati suppose the variety to be the *Detroit*. We cannot say one thing or another, except that it is of the Bellflower family. The Detroit of New York is a widely different fruit, of a bright scarlet color, and we never heard of any other *Detroit*, until the name was applied to this apple.

There is not the least doubt that the *Golden Russet* of the West is the *Bullock Pippin* and *Sheep-nose* of New Jersey, and we hope that the proposed name "*American Golden Russet*" will deliver us, forever after, from eating any more *sheep-noses*. Names are of importance in classifying fruits, and there is a pleasure also in having a decorous name to a good fruit. It is amusing to look through a catalogue of singular names.

The *Hoss* apple is popularly the *Horse* apple, and when, on a certain contingency a gentleman promised to eat a *hoss*, it was not so hazardous a threat as some have imagined. The French, in naming their fruits, exercise a freedom with things human and divine, to which we, occidentals, are not accustomed, (as, *Ah Mon Dieu! Grosse Cuisse Madame*, &c.,) and an innocent person, recapitulating his pears, might, if over-heard by neighbors understanding French, be tho't very profane, or worse. There are other names which have a tendency to make the mouth water, as, *Onion Pear*. One must have pleasing associations while eating the *Toad Pear*. (See Prince Pom. Man. p. 24 & 34.) The French *Bon Chrétien* (or Good Christian) is called in these parts the *Bon Cheat-em*. Then, there is the Damoiselle, the Lady's Flesh, and Love's Pear (Prince 58, 34, & 117)—very proper for young lovers. Then, there is the *Burnt Cat* (*Chat Bruslé* of the French, Prince 89,) which undoubtedly has a musk flavor. We have less objection to the *Priests Pear*, (*Poire de Prêtre*, Prince, 108.) Piscatory gentlemen would always angle in our nurseries for the *Trout* pear (Prince 130,) and if they did not get a bite, the pear *would*, as it is a fine variety. How did those who named pears, *Louise Bonne de Jersey*, or *Van Mons leon le clerc*, expect common folks to hold fast to the true name? But he must have a short memory indeed, who forgets the emphatic name of *Yat*, or *Yut*.

But to return from our digression. We give the description of the Golden Russet from three sources, and endorse their general accuracy:

GOLDEN RUSSET.—(*Dr. Plummer.*)

"*Size.*—2 2-10 in. long; 2 7-10 in. wide.

"*Form.*—Rather smaller at the summit; moderately flattened at the ends.

"*Pulp.*—Very tender, juicy, yellowish white.

"*Color.*—Deep yellow, with brown and russet clouds; or wholly brown and russet.

"*Surface.*—Nearly dull; ruffled by the confluent lineoles; dots hardly discoverable.

"*Flavor.*—Sweet and delicious.

"*Stem.*—Slender; half to one inch long, reaching to a considerable distance beyond the verge.

"*Eye.*—In a rather contracted cavity; closed.

"Ripens in the tenth month.

"It is one of our best apples, and keeps well through the winter."

"Whether the Leathercoat and the Glass apple are the same as are now known under those names, it is impossible to determine. Near Poughkeepsie, in the State of New York, the Leathercoat used to be a favorite fruit; and whether it is the same as the Golden Russet, described above, I am not now able to say; but my recollection of that apple after a lapse of twenty-three years, induces me to think it is no other than the Golden Russet; and, indeed, Trevelyan calls it also the '*russet* appell.' The Glass apple was described in a former number of 'The Orchard.' If the 'lethercott' has descended to us under the name of Golden Russet, the fine flavor of this apple would lead us to believe that it had not deteriorated, after a period of more than two centuries and a half."—(*West. Farm. & Gard.*, 1843.)

BULLOCK'S PIPPIN, or SHEEP-NOSE—Coxe.

Golden Russet of Cincinnati. Golden Russet of the Eastern nurseries.—(*Dr. Kirtland.*)

"Neither the size nor appearance of this fruit would attract attention; yet it sells more readily in markets where it is known than any other apple. Its flavor is rich and pleasant, and many people consider it the best fruit of the season. In northern Ohio it matures at New-years, while in Cincin-

nati it is in perfection in November."—(*West. Farm. & Gard.*, 1841.)

GOLDEN RUSSET—BULLOCK PIPPIN, or SHEEP-NOSE.—(*A Hampton.*)

"This apple is below medium size; the skin is yellow, inclined to a russet; the flesh yellow, rich, juicy, tender and sprightly. I know of no apple more generally admired for its richness and excellent flavor than this; commanding a high price, and ready sale, in market; it makes very rich cider; a great and constant bearer; and keeps well till spring."—(*West. Farm. & Gard.*, 1841.)

We do not know another apple whose *flavor* and *flesh* are so admirable. A gentleman near Belfre, Ohio, on being asked for a list of a hundred trees for an orchard, replied, "set out ninety-nine Golden Russets, the other one you can choose for yourself."

There is an English Golden Russet, alluded to by Mr. Downing, the American Golden Russet of the West, of New Jersey, and of Manning's Book of Fruits; and there is a third Golden Russet in Worcester county, Massachusetts. We heard of it at *West Sutton*. At a Farmer's meeting in Boston last February, we read in the New England Farmer, that Mr. Earle of Worcester, mentioned and described this Golden Russet.

Mr. Judah's Letter.

Many of our readers will remember a series of letters in the Indiana Journal last year from New Orleans. They were very highly appreciated and some of them, we understand, especially one, descriptive of the N. Orleans Bar, received the praise of that eminent Jurist, Judge Story. Mr. Judah has been long known as a curious reader of Horticultural Science and not unpractical in the art, and his industry and love of minute research cannot but make him a writer of no mean repute in political economy or industrial statistics. We receive his promise of future correspondence with unfeigned pleasure.

Strawberries.

This fruit is marketable to almost any amount. Last summer *one hundred bushels* a day were sold in the Cincinnati market. Some market-gardeners have *twenty-acre* patches wholly in strawberries. At even four cents a quart they would afford a handsome profit. We have not exaggerated the amount sold in Cincinnati. The Horticultural Society appointed a committee to investigate the amount sold, and they reported that on *one* day, there were, last May 235 bushels in *market*, besides all that the Hotels and other establishments had bought at private sale. Some one might make money at Fort Wayne, Logansport, Lafayette, Terre-Haute, New Albany, Madison, Indianapolis, and at all large places, by cultivating strawberries for market.

Corn and Millet for Fodder.

The practice of sowing grains for fodder has been practiced with great success. MILLET is sown in May, June, or July, at the rate of three pecks of seed to the acre. It is, usually, ready for the scythe in about ninety days. Thick sowing is best. Cut when the grain is fairly out of the milk, and cure it like hay. Four tons is a fair yield—two tons is a small crop. We presume the seed could be had in Cincinnati, and at commercial points in the north of Indiana.

INDIAN CORN should be sown broad cast at the rate of four to five bushels to the acre. Corn belongs to the tribe of *grasses*. Cultivating it for the grain, in rows, with every stimulant of air, light, and manure, developes the stalk almost to a tree form. When sown for fodder, the object should be to produce it, as nearly as possible, like a *grass*. Thick sowing will tend to do it, and each stalk being small and tender, the crop will be easily masticated by cattle. By good management six or eight tons may be cut to the acre—cutting twice in the season. The first mowing should be about the period of *silking*. The next, whenever the shoots have grown again to a proper size. If but one mowing is intended, it should be permitted to stand a week or two later than when two crops are to be taken. For, all plants prepare the most of nutritious juices at the period of their *fruiting*. Indian corn is the richest in saccharine matter at about the time its grain is turning from a milky to a mealy state. We wish that some of our farmers would try an acre or two of corn, and tell us the result. Here are the Johnsons, the Hardins, Van Houten, Howland, McIlvain and a dozen more, farmers all, good

and true, from whose experiments on this subject we should hope much. Cattle will eat either of the above grains treated like a grass crop with great avidity; and every one knows that it is desirable to give them a *change* of food through the winter.

Care of Peach Trees.

Take a light hoe and remove the earth from the trunk of your trees. If there are worms there you may detect them from the gum which has exuded, or by the channels which they have made in the bark, or if by neither of these, by the discoloration of the bark in spots. Scrape the bark gently with the back of a knife, and you can easily detect the traces of worms if any are there. Cut freely and boldly both ways along their track so as to lay bare the channel in its whole length—remove the worm, and the bark will very soon heal. Sometimes four, six, and even more will be found in one tree. The ashes of stone coal, blacksmiths' cinders, wood ashes, lime, the refuse stems of tobacco, planting tansey around the trunk, these, and dozens of other remedies are proposed. For our own part we rely solely on our jack-knife. In March or April, and then again in August or September, according to the season, we search the trunk thoroughly. We can attend to twenty trees in an hour or two; and when eating freely of delicious peaches we never had a qualm of regret for having so spent the time.

We have practiced sowing salt under fruit trees with decided advantage. If one pound of saltpeter be added to every six pounds of salt, it will be yet better. We sow enough to make the ground look moderately white, and prefer to do it in wet weather.

Covering the Roots of Peach Trees.

We are willing to take the compromise of Hon. C. W. Elliot of Walnut Hills nursery and co-editor of the Western Farmer and Gardener, on the matter of covering the roots of trees to retard their developement in spring. We have gained our object. The papers, increasingly every year, recommended *heaping* snow about trees, *tramping* it down, &c. &c. No explanation, no limitation, and we think no suspicion of any danger on the part of those who wrote. Now we would, as the result of what we have learned from others and seen ourselves, say:

1. If you only cover the roots so as not to *affect* the root, it will do the tree no good by *means of the root*—quite plain, we think.

2. If you cover the root so as really to fasten it in a cold and inactive state, while the branches, in a different temperature, are growing, you will weaken your tree; and if the operation is prolonged, you will kill it. The process reverses the condition of nature. The temperature of the *soil* in the growing season is several degrees *higher* than the temperature of the atmosphere. *This* process brings the temperature of the soil several degrees *lower* than that of the air.

3. There *is no benefit*, at least not that benefit which is supposed, and if any, very little, in covering the roots of trees, by any influences it has on the *tree* itself. But, that the gradual melting of snow, or the evaporation of water from the surface of the ground, from wet straw, wood, &c., may not produce a cooler atmosphere about the tree, we will not deny. If it is *found to be beneficial*, let it be practiced.

Friend Elliott is not more surprised to see himself entitled Honorable in the opening of this article, than we were to see ourselves entitled *Doctor*, albeit being read to that degree neither in Law, Medicine, nor Theology.

Simultaneous eating off the same Ox in France and England.—On New Year's Day their Majesties of Great Britain and France had their royal tables supplied with meat off the same animal—an unprecedented event in the annals of their domestic arrangements. It seems that at a late cattle show in London, the ox which took the first class prize was purchased by Mr. Minton, the purveyer to Queen Victoria, who offered through the French Embassy, to present his Majesty Louis Phillippe with a sirloin, a rump, and an aitch bone for his festival on New Year's Day. The offer was graciously accepted, and the immense joint or rather combination of joint; weighing 44 stones, or upward of 350 pounds, was sent on Saturday, the 28th of December, from London by the General Steam Navigation Company's packet to Boulogne, from whence it was transmitted by express to Paris, and reached the Tuilleries on the following Monday morning, so that on the succeeding Wednesday, the first of the New Year, the royal table, at the Tuilleries and that at Windsor Castle, were both supplied with portions of the same prize ox, which it is presumed their majesties enjoyed with a gusto not less epicurean than healthy.

Festival to Commemorate the Introduction of the First Potato.

Festivals are frequently established for commemorating some absurd custom, but the following celebration in honor of the potato has something in the subject of it of real usefulness to mankind.

Several of the German States have, we learn from the Atheneum, instituted feasts in honor of the introduction of the potato; and the anniversary of its importation has just been held as a jubilee at Bavaria. At Menterschwaige, near Munich, a festival was observed on the occasion, in which dishes of the poor man's especial root, variously dressed, had the place of honor on the table, while the bust of Sir Francis Drake, crowned with garlands of oak, and presented to the commune, for the occasion, by its sculptor Schwanthater, occupied the centre of the hall. In France, a monument is about to be erected to Parmentier, commemorating its introduction into that country. It may appear to our readers, that the honor paid to the memory of Drake was really due to Raleigh; but it is probable that the Germans are literally correct. The first colonists sent out by Raleigh, were disheartened when Drake touched at Virginia, and he consented to bring them home. Lane, the Governor, who is believed to have brought with him the first tobacco, may, and probably did, bring the first potato; if so, though indebted to the enterprise of Raleigh for the discovery, it was Drake's ship that actually introduced the first root.—*Bulletin of Medical Science.*

Asparagus.

A correspondent of the London Gardener's Chronicle says: "I have an asparagus bed, thirty feet by five feet, on which I put one hundred weight of salt, about the middle of March last year, and also this year. The increase of crop, both with regard to size and number, is most extraordinary." In another place, a case is given where too heavy and often repeated a dressing of salt destroyed the asparagus, though the precise amount of this overdose is not given.—*Alb. Cultivator.*

Farm School.—The late JOHN PARKER, Esq. of Boston, among other munificent donations, gave $4,000 to the Farm School, on Rainford Island.

TABLE OF PRICES CURRENT

At Cincinnati, Louisville, Lawreneeburgh, Madison, Indianapolis, Lafayette, Ft. Wayne, &c.

	Indianapolis.	Cincinnati.	Louisville.	Madison.	Lawrenceburgh.	Lafayette.	Ft. Wayne.	Michigan City.
GRAIN.								
Corn, per bushel,	20a25 cts	33a35	25a30	25a30		28a30	40 cts.	
Wheat per " –	50 cts.	75 cts.	75 cts.	60a70		58a60	60a68	
Oats per " –	18a20	23a25	20a25	15a20		20a22	30a33	
FLOUR, per bbl., –	3.25	3,50a3,53	3,80a4,00	3,75a3.87		3.15a3,50	3,50	
CORN MEAL, p. bush.	25 cts.			30a35		31a31	50	
PORK, &c.								
Clear, per bbl. –	none	11,00	10,0a10,50					
Mess, – – –	none	10.00	8.50a9 00				9.00	
Prime, – –	none	7,00a7.50	8.00a8.50					
Hams, per lb. –	5 cts.	5 c's.	5¼a7	6		5a6		
Hog round, – –	2½ ct.			4		2a3		
Lard, – – –	5a6	6a7¼	prime 6	5a6		5a5	5a6	
CATTLE—								
On foot, – –		3,25a3,30	2.56a3,75					
Beef in barrels, –								
FRUIT—								
Apples, dried, –	87	75a80	75a87	62a75		50a1.00	1.00	
" green, –	37	62a75	1.50a1.75			25a37	50,	
Peaches, dried, –	1.12½	1,12½	1,12½a1,25	1,25		1,25a1,37	1,50	
SEEDS—								
Clover, – –	4 00	3,50a3.62	3,62a3,75	4.00a4,50		3.50a3,75		
Timothy, – –	1 00		1 75a1,87	1,25a1.50		88a1,00		
Hemp, – – –		50 cts.	50 cts.	50a62		9 4a1,00		
Flax, – – –	62 cts.	1,00a1,05	95a1.00	1,00		78a75		
SALT—								
Kenhawa, – –		1,32a1,95		25 per bu				
Onondaga, –	3 50					2.00a2.25	2,50	
FEATHERS, per lb, –	25 cts,	24a27	20a23	25a27		20a22	25	
TALLOW, per lb, –	4a5	4a6	4a6	5		5a6		
HIDES, – –		4a9½					7a8	
BEESWAX, – –	25	25	25	25		22a24	25	
BUTTER, – –	12a18	15a25	12a20	12a15		12a15	10a12½	
EGGS, – – –	3a4	12a14					8 cts.	
COFFEE, – –	8a10			7a8		7a10		
SUGAR, – – –	8a10	4¼a5		4a6		8a9		